



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Republican Obstructionists Block Lifesaving Legislation,
Play More Partisan Games**

MADISON –Representative Melissa Sargent (D-Madison) released the following statement in response to today’s Assembly Floor Session:

“Once again, GOP lawmakers demonstrated their willingness to put partisan tricks above doing what is best for our state. From attempted veto overrides to refusing to take up the lifesaving pieces of legislation that Governor Tony Evers called for in a Special Session on gun violence, Republicans showed that they would rather continue to be obstructionists than to hold a meaningful debate about how to better serve Wisconsinites.

Republicans continue to put politics before the people. Knowing that any veto override attempt would fail and that Governor Evers has in fact provided more funding for behavioral health care than the GOP recommended, Republicans still chose to have the Legislature spend our time on the floor on three senseless veto overrides. Not only was this a political stunt, but it was truly a waste of time and resources for our state.

Wisconsinites want us as a body to take meaningful action to bring tangible change to our state. Governor Evers handed Republican lawmakers an opportunity to fundamentally improve the state of Wisconsin by protecting our communities from egregious firearm violence and gun-related suicides. However, Republicans refused to adopt this life-saving legislation and once again proved they put political gimmicks above saving lives.

So what is holding you back Speaker Vos and my Republican colleagues, from listening to the voices of the people of Wisconsin? No NRA campaign contributions or partisan tactic against Governor Evers is worth costing one more life. The people of Wisconsin do not have time for your political games— lives are at stake.

As a state, we can, and should, do better. This is not about gun owners versus gun reform advocates. This is not about politics. This is not an us versus them conversation. This is about coming together, despite our differences, and doing the right thing for our state.

Today, we had the opportunity to save lives and Republican lawmakers refused to do so. I am beyond disappointed at the failure of this body, and I will not stop fighting to bring these pragmatic solutions to Wisconsin.”

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Melissa Sargent is a State Representative in the Wisconsin Assembly, representing the 48th Assembly District, which covers the east and north sides of the city of Madison and the village of Maple Bluff